

Message Text

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E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS: PFOR, TQ

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS TO THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT RELEASED BY
THE WHITE HOUSE JUNE 20.

BEGIN TEXT. I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXTEND
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS MY PERSONAL
GREETINGS AND TO CONVEY TO THEM MY PLEASURE WITH THE RESULTS
OF THE PLEBISCITE HELD ON JUNE 17, 1975. I HAVE BEEN IN-
FORMED THAT A SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY HAS VOTED IN FAVOR OF
THE COMMONWEALTH COVENANT IN FREE AND OPEN BALLOTING OBSER-
VED BY THE UNITED NATIONS AND PRECEDED BY A FAIR AND IMPAR-
TIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM. I WISH PERSONALLY TO CONGRATULATE
AND COMMEND ALL OF THOSE WHO WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CON-
DUCT OF THE PLEBISCITE, INCLUDING THE PLEBISCITE COMMISSION-
ER AND HIS STAFF, THE VOTER REGISTRATION BOARD AND THE
PLEBISCITE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS HAVE NOW SPOKEN. THE
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NEXT STEP WILL BE CONSIDERATION OF THE COVENANT BY THE CON-

GRESS OF THE UNITED STATES. I INTEND TO SUBMIT WITHOUT

DELAY THE COVENANT TO THE CONGRESS WITH MY STRONG ENDORSE-
MENT FOR ITS EARLY FAVORABLE ACTION. IT IS MY EARNEST
HOPE THAT WE MAY LOOK FORWARD TO FURTHER STEPS IN THE NEAR
FUTURE WHICH WILL MOVE THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS STILL CLOSER TO THE LONG-DESIRED ULTIMATE GOAL OF
POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES. I KNOW THE AMERI-
CAN PEOPLE JOIN WITH ME IN SENDING TO THE PEOPLE OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS OUR WARMEST REGARDS.

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